

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Chen et al. Art Unit : 1763  
Serial No. : 10/732,966 Examiner : Sylvia R. MacArthur  
Filed : December 10, 2003 Conf. No. : 9309  
Title : RETAINING RING WITH SLURRY TRANSPORT GROOVES

**MAIL STOP AF**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

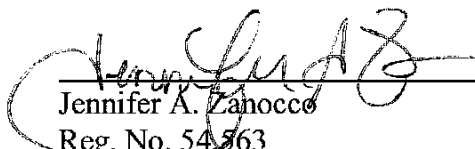
Applicants request consideration of the references listed on the attached PTO-1449 form. Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98 (a)(2)(ii), only copies of foreign patent documents and/or non-patent literature are enclosed. A copy of a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application is enclosed.

This statement is being filed after a final Office action or a Notice of Allowance, but before payment of the issue fee. Each item of information in this statement (i) was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, the communication being dated June 12, 2006, which is not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement, and (ii) was not first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application which was more than three months prior to the filing date of this statement.

The late submission fee under §1.17(p) in the amount of \$180 is being paid concurrently herewith on the Electronic Filing System (EFS) by way of Deposit Account authorization. Please apply any other required charges or credits to Deposit Account No. 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: July 11, 2006

  
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Substitute Form PTO-1449 (Modified)  <b>Information Disclosure Statement by Applicant</b> (Use several sheets if necessary)  (37 CFR §1.98(b))	U.S. Department of Commerce Patent and Trademark Office	Attorney's Docket No. 05542-552001	Application No. 10/732,966
	Applicant Chen et al.		
	Filing Date December 10, 2003	Group Art Unit 1763	

U.S. Patent Documents							
Examiner Initial	Desig. ID	Document Number	Publication Date	Patentee	Class	Subclass	Filing Date If Appropriate
	AA						
	AB						
	AC						
	AD						
	AE						
	AF						
	AG						
	AH						
	AI						
	AJ						
	AK						

Foreign Patent Documents or Published Foreign Patent Applications								
Examiner Initial	Desig. ID	Document Number	Publication Date	Country or Patent Office	Class	Subclass	Translation	
							Yes	No
	AL							
	AM							
	AN							
	AO							
	AP							

Other Documents (include Author, Title, Date, and Place of Publication)		
Examiner Initial	Desig. ID	Document
	AQ	International Preliminary Report on Patentability and Written Opinion of the International Searching Authority, International Application Serial No. PCT/US2004/041322, June 12, 2006, 6 pages.
	AR	
	AS	
	AT	

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
EXAMINER: Initials citation considered. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.	